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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 10, 35 and 38 as follows.

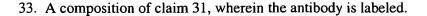
For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are listed below. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

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- 10. (Once amended.) An isolated antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3.
- 29. A diagnostic test for a condition or disease associated with the expression of HMRP in a biological sample comprising the steps of:
- a) combining the biological sample with an antibody of claim 10, under conditions suitable for the antibody to bind the polypeptide and form an antibody:polypeptide complex; and
- b) detecting the complex, wherein the presence of the complex correlates with the presence of the polypeptide in the biological sample.
 - 30. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody is:
 - a) a chimeric antibody,
 - b) a single chain antibody,
 - c) a Fab fragment,
 - d) a F(ab')₂ fragment, or
 - e) a humanized antibody.
 - 31. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 10 and an acceptable excipient.
- 32. A method of diagnosing a condition or disease associated with the expression of HMRP in a subject, comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of the composition of claim 31.



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- 34. A method of diagnosing a condition or disease associated with the expression of HMRP in a subject, comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of the composition of claim 33.
- 35. (Once amended.) A method of preparing a polyclonal antibody with the specificity of the antibody of claim 10 comprising:
- a) immunizing an animal with a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3, or an immunogenic fragment thereof, under conditions to elicit an antibody response;
 - b) isolating antibodies from said animal; and
- c) screening the isolated antibodies with the polypeptide, thereby identifying a polyclonal antibody which binds specifically to a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3.
 - 36. An antibody produced by a method of claim 35.
 - 37. A composition comprising the antibody of claim 36 and a suitable carrier.

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- 38. (Once amended.) A method of making a monoclonal antibody with the specificity of the antibody of claim 10 comprising:
- a) immunizing an animal with a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3, or an immunogenic fragment thereof, under conditions to elicit an antibody response;
 - b) isolating antibody producing cells from the animal;
- c) fusing the antibody producing cells with immortalized cells to form monoclonal antibodyproducing hybridoma cells;
 - d) culturing the hybridoma cells; and
- e) isolating from the culture monoclonal antibody which binds specifically to a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3.
 - 39. A monoclonal antibody produced by a method of claim 38.
 - 40. A composition comprising the antibody of claim 39 and a suitable carrier.

- 41. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody is produced by screening a Fab expression library.
- 42. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody is produced by screening a recombinant immunoglobulin library.
- 43. A method for detecting a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 in a sample, comprising the steps of:
- a) incubating the antibody of claim 10 with a sample under conditions to allow specific binding of the antibody and the polypeptide; and
- b) detecting specific binding, wherein specific binding indicates the presence of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 in the sample.
- 44. A method of purifying a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 from a sample, the method comprising:
- a) incubating the antibody of claim 10 with a sample under conditions to allow specific binding of the antibody and the polypeptide; and
- b) separating the antibody from the sample and obtaining the purified polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3.

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